Lab scientists recognized for economic development efforts

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Two Los Alamos National Laboratory scientists were recently recognized for helping small businesses in New Mexico by using their technical expertise and laboratory capabilities.

Andy McCown and Mei Ding received Principal Investigator Excellence (PIE) awards for assisting several New Mexico small businesses. They were recognized at a breakfast reception and received a certificate of appreciation and a freshly baked pie.

McCown was recognized for the assistance he provided to several small businesses and one multi-business assistance request through the Northern New Mexico Small Business Assistance (NMSBA) Program. In part, his work has centered on the identification of cost and energy savings to help small businesses save money and increase their sustainability.

Ding was recognized for her expertise in assisting three small businesses that all involved the evaluation of relatively new, alternative water treatment systems, either for

drinking or industrial (cooling tower) applications. She and her team assisted the small businesses by designing experiments and analytical methods to accurately represent the end product of various treatment systems. From the results the businesses can better understand the capabilities and limitations of their treatment systems.

So far in 2013, NMSBA at LANL has assisted more than 140 small businesses across the state. Laboratory scientists and investigators interested in collaborating with small businesses through the NMSBA Program should contact Becky Coel-Roback (becky_cr@lanl.gov) at LANL's Richard P. Feynman Center for Innovation.

Los Alamos National Security, LLC, and the Lab's New Mexico Small Business Assistance (NMSBA) and Los Alamos Connect programs were sponsors of the recognition event.

More information about the NMSBA Program, visit its webpages.